

The Indiana Missionary Convention

The first Missionary Convention ever held by the Brethren church in Indiana was held in the Fairview church, December 27 to 29 inclusive. Brother Talley presided at the several sessions, and he, together with Brethren Cassel and Perry presented such topics as were thought to be the best suited to the occasion.

Brother Perry presented two topics that were especially helpful to all that heard them. Of Brother Perry's dividing the truth no one need be ashamed. He is an excellent and safe teacher of what the Bible teaches. His first topic was "The Power of the Holy Spirit." He showed, by the scriptures, the power of the Spirit as seen in the life of Christ and the apostles; and concluded that workers today, can also go and work in the power and the fulness of the Spirit—that the promise of Jesus, to be present always even to the end of the age, is literally true.

Brother Perry's second topic was, "The Motives that Should Move One to Enter and Persevere in Christian Work." This topic was based upon the life of St. Paul and illustrated also from that life. In II Cor. 5. St. Paul tells us the two motives that moved him in his work:

1. *Fear of God.* "Knowing therefore, the terror of the Lord we persuade men."
2. *Love of Christ.* "For the love of Christ constraineth us."

Brother Perry dwelt much upon this second motive. He said that it was not a natural love that should move the worker, for natural love was both fickle and selfish; not philanthropic love, the love of man for man; and not love for Christ, but the love of Christ. This love of Christ, philo-christy, instead of philanthropy, constitutes the greatest missionary motive. And this love of Christ is a gift of God. It is not ethical culture nor the result of ethical culture; it comes only from God. And the gospel will be carried to the heathen only in proportion to the love of Christ that dwells in the church. Dr. Gordon says: "The nearest way to the heart of sorrowing humanity is through the 'Man of Sorrows.'"

Brother Cassel's Bible Readings—addresses, mostly impromptu, and paper, were very good and made a lasting impression upon many hearers. Brother Cassel is much interested in Mission work. He has given his all, spirit, soul and body, to the work. People see this and have confidence in what he says and suggests.

His first Bible reading had a telling effect. The reading was entitled, "Three Classes of Christians."

1. Those Christians in name only. Matt. 7: 21-23.
2. Those whose work shall be burned. I Cor. 3: 15.
3. Those that shall receive the kingdom. Luke 12: 32.

No report can be given of Brother Cassel's impromptu addresses, only that they were always in harmony with the subject for the hour and were well illustrated.

Brother Cassel's paper was entitled, "The Supernatural Hope," or "The Second Coming of Christ." As Brother Cassel has this paper well prepared, I am sure that at some time we may read it. So I refrain to reproduce any of the paper at all.

Brother Talley preached on Tuesday evening from Hebrews 11. His theme was "Pilgrims." He showed clearly and conclusively that we are but pilgrims here wandering toward an eternal home. This world is not our staying place, therefore we should not be so much concerned about it as most of us are. We are traveling toward our eternal home—a home that lasts through the ceaseless ages of eternity and should rather therefore prepare for this home. Its interests should concern us rather than the things of this present world.

Brother Talley also made several addresses that were very good, but he conducted the meetings arranged for others to speak, and usually filled in where filling in was needed and said what others left unsaid. On the last evening of the Convention he preached a sermon on Comparative Religions, that was very good and enjoyed by all present.

I can not write of the results of the Convention. Only later, if at all, can this be done. I am certain that good was done; that the spiritual life of the church has been both broadened and deepened. The Fairview church is already to some extent a missionary church, but this Convention will help us to become more so. Quite a number of Missionary barrels had been placed in our homes before the Convention, but when the Convention closed there were but a few homes into which these barrels had not found their way.

We shall arrange for another to be held some time during the present year, and we hope to so arrange that more of our ministers interested in such work can be present, and I am sure that the Fairview church will never let another year pass without having held a Missionary Convention.

Brother minister, if your congregations are growing cold and indifferent, hold a Missionary Convention. Members of State Mission Boards, have you no funds with which to carry on your work, and no prospects of any, arrange for Missionary Conventions in several parts of your state or district so that the members of the churches may attend.

If the Brethren church ever expects to carry on its work of spreading a gospel-alone salvation to every part of these United States and into the regions beyond, she must educate her members and bring them up to the Christian standard of living and giving. This can be done most effectively in Missionary Conventions.

WM. D. FURRY.

It is no man's business whether he is a genius or not; work he must, whatever he is, but quietly and steadily; and the natural and unforced results of such work will always be the things that God meant him to do and will be his best.—John Ruskin.

Church News

Pittsburg Echoes

Our work here is progressing very nicely, although sickness is in our midst. Death also has been plucking some of the flowerettes. He seems to be no respecter of persons, but takes the dearest ones, gathering them for the beautiful home above.

We held our Quarterly Communion last Thursday evening. We had a very enjoyable time around our Father's table, strengthening our souls for the spiritual warfare, knowing that by and by, we shall lay our armor down, and shall gather at that great supper yonder with the dear ones who have gone before.

A few weeks ago, we officiated at the communion held by the North Georgetown brethren. We had a very pleasant time together, although some faces were absent, having been called home by our Father. We missed them, but hope to meet them in the heavenly city.

Christmas came with its joys and pleasures, and there came also a fine set of dishes, linen table cloth, etc., from the dear people here. We appreciate these gifts very much, knowing they come with the best wishes of the ones who gave them.

Fire tried to destroy our church home some weeks ago, but was unsuccessful, because of the prompt arrival of the firemen, who extinguished the flames before much damage was done. Loss is covered by insurance. We gathered that evening and thanked our Father for his overshadowing care.

This week we are holding special preparatory services for our members, before we open our revival, which we expect to do in the near future, if the Lord is willing. Pray for us, that our meeting may be a success.

ROGER E. DARLING.

5020 Dearborn St.

Pleasant Hill, Ohio

Having just closed our meeting at Bloomer, Ohio, we are at home taking our rest, before entering on our protracted work which begins January 8, at Gretna, O. We went to the Bloomer charge and found them anxious for a meeting. Surely the Bloomer church has my heartfelt sympathy. First, they are few in number, second, they have no church of their own to worship in, third, they have not had enough regular preaching, consequently they are spiritually weak, and I wonder that they maintain their organization, but they are of a good class of people. They are large and generous hearted. They still love the cause and the church of their choice and if properly cared for they will become a power for good. They all seemed to enjoy the services, and I believe that they have re-consecrated themselves to the Lord. They are in fact, revived, and a better spirit could not be expected than theirs at present. We expect to continue serving them once a month for this year, and we expect some good re-